



January 1, 2001

To All Russian River Watershed Council Members and Interested Citizens:

Our next Russian River Watershed Council (RRWC) meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 13, 2001** at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Cloverdale, at 205 West First Street. See the attached draft agenda developed by the RRWC Steering Committee.

Each caucus will be holding meetings before the main council meeting to discuss issues associated with the Russian River Watershed Council becoming a legal entity as a nonprofit organization. The public caucus will meet on January 3 from 6-8PM at the Cloverdale library. The economic caucus will meet on January 10 from 12-1:30PM.

RRWC executive steering members will meet with the new US Army Corps of Engineer, Col. O'Rourke and the State Secretary of Resources, Mary Nichols in February to discuss project cost share and implementation. Linda has met with several restoration grant contractors and attended a Prop 13 grants workshop and an excellent restoration workshop by John Calaprice and the Round Valley Water District in Covelo.

The Salmonid Restoration workgroup has developed a draft guideline for proposal review and approval. The first draft is included for your review. Also the restoration work approved by the Council at our November meeting is moving forward in the Willow Creek area.

We have the honor of presenting to the RRWC John Westoby, Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner; Ann Maurice State, Environmental and Public Health Glassy Winged Sharpshooter Task Force; and Peter Opatz, Sonoma County Winegrowers Association, to address the current concerns associated with Pierce's Disease and the glassy winged sharpshooter and their potential impacts on the watershed. Please join us at the January 13 RRWC meeting.

Sincerely,

Richard Shoemaker
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1090
Ukiah, California 95482
(707) 463-4221

Mike Reilly
575 Administration Drive, Room 100A
Santa Rosa, California 95403-2887
(707) 565-2241

RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

([http:// www.spn.usace.army.mil/russian.](http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/russian.))

RRWC Meeting
Saturday, January 13, 2001
8:30a.m. – 1:00p.m.

Veteran's Memorial Hall
205 West First Street,
Cloverdale

The mission of the Russian River Watershed Council is to protect, restore, and enhance the biological health of the Russian River and its watershed through a community-based process, which facilitates communication and collaboration among all interested parties.

8:30-9:00 Coffee and Sign-in

DRAFT AGENDA

9:00-9:10	Approve Agenda	ACTION ITEM
9:10-9:15	Approve Minutes of September 9, 2000 RRWC Meetings	ACTION ITEM
9:15-9:25	Agency Announcements	DISCUSSION
9:25-9:45	Announcements	DISCUSSION
9:45-10:00	RRWC Logo	DISCUSSION
10:00- 11:10	Caucus Reports on Non Profit Status	DISCUSSION/ NEXT STEPS SUPPORT
11:10-11:30	Break	
11:30-11:45	Draft proposal for submission guidelines Scott Barrow	DISCUSSION/ NEXT STEPS
11:30-12:30	Effects of Pierce's Disease and Glassy winged Sharpshooter On Russian River Watershed John Westoby Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner Ann Maurice Ad Hoc Committee for Clean Water State Environmental and Public Health Glassy winged Sharpshooter Task Force Peter Opatz	PRESENTATION
12:30-12:45	Issues for the Next Meeting. March 10 RRWC Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-Profit Documentation March 31 Water Rights Law Seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finley Community Center, Santa Rosa	SUPPORT

Salmonid Restoration work group presents a few recommendations for restoration work submittal process for Russian River Watershed Council to implement for proposal reviews and selections.

DRAFT

1) Submission Criteria

- Seek out best ideas in innovative and proven technologies.
- Broadly circulated request for proposals annually.
- Clear guidelines and deadlines for defined proposals.

2) Proposal Contents

- A. Project Summary - Include a statement of objectives, methods to be employed, and the potential benefits of the project. Relate the proposal to the RRWC objectives and goals.
- B. Project Personnel - Identify the project manager (the person responsible for overall coordination of the project from beginning to end), and other staff or organizations necessary to complete the project, including specific responsibilities related to technical, analytical and management roles. Ensure the work proposed is appropriate for the experience level of the investigators.
- C. Objectives - Make a clear statement of the specific purpose(s) of the project or study. Inquiry may be stated as a hypothesis or question.
- D. Research Design and Methodology - Specify the major elements of the design, including sample size, project duration, potential limitations of the proposed approach, and geographic scope.
- E. Data Collection - Describe sampling methods, personnel, and protocols.
- F. Data Synthesis and Analysis - Describe how the data will be analyzed and evaluated.
- G. Reporting - Provide a timetable for delivering report(s) to the RRWC.
- H. Ability to Conduct Proposed Research - Identify the total cost (including data collection and analysis) associated with project and sources of funding. Identify any existing commitments for participation in, or funding of the project by government agencies. Encourage project with matching outside funding.
- I. Report Contents - Summary of the work completed with data analysis. Conclusions and recommendations clearly identified. Include raw data as well as summaries.

3) Review and Approval

- A. Establish a standardized procedure to ensure impartial selection.
- B. Establish a review committee with membership partially rotated on regular basis, e.g., 50% each cycle. Example: Six member committee with three members joining every six months. Committee size never exceeds 12 if members are signed up for 2 year terms that overlap.

CAUCUS BYLAWS ISSUES

Each caucus will meet before the January 13 meeting to discuss the following issues and develop a caucus position statement for presentation at the January 13 meeting. Each caucus will address:

Choice of officer model

- A) Each caucus has a member as acting president, and two other members with staggered terms to coincide with steering committee terms acting as the officers.
- B) The president, treasurer and secretary are the executive committee with the duties of president rotating between the caucuses.

Choice of Board of Director model

- A) Steering Committee is Board of Directors
- B) Full Council is Board of Directors

Confirm how Board of Directors will be elected

- A) By Full Council
- B) By Caucus
- C) Any pre-requisites for election to the board
- D) Tentative term for directors

Define extent of Board of Directors' power.

- A) Unlimited discretionary power in all cases
- B) Limited to some issues with board approval from council in others.
- C) Methods of accountability

Choice of President model

- A) Rotates among officers with each caucus as one officer
- B) President is a triumvirate of one rep from each caucus
- C) President is elected at large from the Council

Define voting rights for Council members

- A) Vote on procedures, projects and budget
- B) Vote to approve or deny Board actions
- C) Any voting rights to be accorded to general members of the public that join the Council

Funding for nonprofit status

- A) Seek grants
- B) Seek donations
- C) Require membership dues

1/3 6-8PM Public caucus meeting Cloverdale library
(Open to environmental caucus members)

1/10 12-1:30 Econ caucus meeting

Fax or get copy of caucus white paper to Linda if you want copies at 1/13 meeting

DRAFT MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 17,2000 MEETING

Opening count of watershed council members =34 voting members

APPROVAL OF AGENDA --no discussion. M/S/C 32 Ayes 2 Abstain to Approve minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-- Discussion that minutes should be included in packet rather than presented at meetings. Vote taken with 20 Ayes. Insufficient support for approval of minutes. Item will be continued to next meeting and minutes mailed in January 13 meeting packet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Round Valley Water District will be holding a riparian and creek restoration workshop on December 4 & 5, 2000. There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP to John Calaprice by email (eco-eng@saber.net)or phone (983-8025)as there are a limited number of spaces.
- All caucuses to meet during break to select Executive Steering Committee members. Results were:

	Primary	Alternate
Economic Caucus	Bob Anderson	Al Beltrami
Environmental Caucus	Tim Derry	Chuck Vaughn
Public Caucus	Jerome Dix	Will McAfee
- California Dept. of Fish and Game will make its decision on the Glassy Winged Sharpshooter Program available on November 27. There will opportunity to address the issue in the 2002 Farm Bill. A public hearing will be held in Ukiah on January 9, 2001 at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds at 8AM. Further info is available at the USDA website www.cdffa.ca.gov/nfact
- The Russian River Cleanup this year had 250 people participating over a 2 day period. They collected 3,100 pounds of metal, 1,300 pounds of glass, 1,700 pounds of aluminum, 14,000 pounds of trash and 113 tires. Cleanup was made possible by sponsorship of Sonoma County Conservation Council.
- There is a proposal for a winery and bottling plant near the Laguna de Santa Rosa by Occidental Rd. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors will have this on the agenda for the January 23 meeting.

APPROVAL OF COORDINATOR Linda Curry was elected coordinator for the council by a unanimous 39 Ayes vote.

BUDGET & BUDGET PROCESS Chuck Vaughn reviewed the budget information included in each member's mailing packet. Discussion items included:

- The request for proposal for the Russian River Interactive Information System has been posted in Commerce Business Daily by the Corps.
- State has \$130K identified. The RRWC Exec Steering Committee and Army Corps will be meeting with the State for further discussion of state funding.
- Budget was initially approved by agencies in February 1999 and by the council in November 1999.
- Budget committee can define where funds are placed.

- Allocation of funds will be coming of the proposal developed in the work groups.
- As RRWC moves forward a more defined budget process is needed. The Budget committee will meet to move idea forward.
- Executive Steering Committee members are selected by each caucus.
- Non profit status will be a big step. Council members want full discussion and information at the January meeting with action by March meeting.
- Steering Committee members should provide leadership on process for gaining non profit status.

Non profit concerns:

- Individual and group liability associated with non profit status and responsibility for funding...how funds are spent by the group and individually.
- Who would be the Board of Directors? May be a need for a smaller group such as Executive Steering Committee.
- How much work will need to be done by which individuals to get the status.
- Motion by Jerome Dix to have separate study group. Members are: Jerome Dix, Jim Noser, Rusty Klassen, Ann Maurice, Al Beltrami, Denny O'Brien, Kathy Hayes, Bob Anderson, David Ripple, Dennis Murphy. Tentative meeting for 12/11 or 12/14 in afternoon at Cloverdale library.
- Liability issues can be covered by insurance coverage.
- Descriptive need to take into account all the work completed to date.
- A political body may not be the right structure for a non-profit. With so many different interests represented, We need to be sure that are not taking on too much or are in conflict with positions by member organizations.
- Non profits cannot support any political campaigns.
- Need a legal analysis of our ability to be non profit organization.
- Mendocino County is expecting that the RRWC will be seeking their own legal status as part of the contract for the coordinator. Mendocino would like the matter to move forward quickly with approval from the council at the January meeting so that the status can be formalized by the spring.
- Al Giordano will provide legal analysis from Denny O'Brien and research by Jay Halcomb to non profit work group.
- RRWC members may represent other non profits so there may be concerns associated with conflict of interest.

SALMOID RESTORATION WORK GROUP PROPOSAL Scott Barrow presented a proposal from the work group to utilize Stewards of Slavianka as the receiving entity for \$10K budgeted for watershed restoration. The RRWC funds will be joined with State Parks and other agencies to develop a proposal by Nov. 27 deadline for Prop 13 funding that includes development and implementation of a watershed management plan for Willow Creek. The work group has a preliminary draft for proposal guidelines.

Discussion:

- Will the plan consider grazing impacts?

- Renee P from Mendocino State Parks-- we need to put the reports together into the watershed plan. There will be opportunity for public inputs to plan.
- Partnership is important and collaboration is a powerful component of the process.
- RRWC support for this project will be good public exposure to what council is about.
- Problem with this proposal is it addresses erosion caused by existing property owners. The plan will not deal with the land use problem. It should deal with the root cause.
- Mendocino Redwoods did not give any guarantee for transfer of information.
- It is a poor message to say that the solution is to dredge the channel.
- Grassland gullies vs hillside gullies should be looked at together.
- Concern at the lack of communication between work group members
- We do want to pay for the problems caused by the logging company.
- Trout Unlimited had an agreement with Pacific Lumber to make no comment on actions taken in Willow Creek.
- Ann Maurice was prevented from delivering all her remarks. She expressed concern that she is a committee member and has not been noticed of any of the recent meetings.
- RRWC needs an investigative process/development process to engage and collaborate with a group interested in restoration projects.
- There is a good deal of spawning gravel available. The problem is the fish can't get to it. The salmoid have trouble getting in and out of the watershed due to blockage where Willow Creek joins the Russian River.

Motion : Have RRWC support providing matching funds of \$10K.

Discussion:

- When will plan be available? It would be valuable for RRWC decision making.
- Chatam consultant will hold back funds, a minimal amount of overall funding needs.
- Support for the motion but concerned over what Mendocino Redwood is doing in watershed. The timber certification process needs to be reviewed.
- Logging in Willow Creek is minimal.
- Disagreement that logging is minimal.

Vote: 36 Aye 2 No 3 Abstain

RULES OF OPERATIONS WORK GROUP Al Giordano led a discussion of the proposed final language for Section 3. Motion to change language about meeting notification for work groups to 5 days was not passed (7 Aye 25 No 4 Abstain)
Motion to modify notification language to “not less than 72 hours” and pass the rules was passed. (36 Aye 1 No)

PRESENTATION ON ROADS Tom Spittler from the California Dept of Geology and Mines and Tom Schott from the National Resource Conservation Service made a presentation on roads and erosion. Highlights of stable practices and culvert placements were contrasted with illustrations of road and bank failures. Handouts included an outline of the topics presented and a rural road erosion hazard assessment checklist.

Concerns:

- CDF requirement for 18' road bed actually contributes to problem. The criteria that is good for fire protection and equipment turn around is not necessarily good for the parcel.
- People need to pay more attention to the contours of the land when constructing roads. Where is the agency coordination and enforcement of existing regulations with regards to road building and road impacts?
- Enforcement of erosion control related to roads is the responsibility of the regional water quality control board and the department of fish and game.
- Counting fish by electrofishing is at cross purposes. The fish sometimes die from the experience.
- RRWC needs a group to address public policy with specific recommendations such as the widest road is not always the best solution and culverts vs bridges.
- Rolling dips instead of side stream ditches will help prolong the lifetime of the road. Road surface is subject to compaction. By adding a separation layer between pavement layers can help prevent surface erosion.
- Rural residential landowners have few resources for consultation.

RCD's and DFG are responsible for assisting property owners with erosion control.

NEXT STEPS January 13 is next watershed council meeting with presentation on glassy winged sharpshooter and non profit organization issues. Meetings for 2001 have been calendared as January 13, March 10, March 31 (Water Rights Seminar), May 12, July 14, September 8, November 10.

Information related to Russian River Watershed Council is available online at :
[http: // www.spn.usace.army.mil/russian](http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/russian).

Email address:
watershedrrwc@hotmail.com

US Mail address:
Russian River Watershed Council
PO Box 3908
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

SURVEY RESPONSES

The Russian River Watershed Council would be more effective ...

- if the process had more structure, some measurements of success and criteria as to how money is given out and criteria for what's an "expert", who gets to speak to the full council
- if we curb the constant lobbying
- if we had identified a creek and had done this last summer similar to what the RR Association in Alexander Valley did 2 summers ago on Dry Creek tributary
- if we quit dealing in micro management of the process
- if we became a 501. C.3 and solicited funds from a more diverse base would be the only way to ensure the council is an ongoing concern and to free us from agency manipulation (through funding baloney)
- if we could make faster progress in getting more members involved.
- if we could see some more worthwhile projects implemented.
- if we concentrated more effort in fulfilling our mission statement
- if we concentrated more effort on initiatives that promote better land management and land use, i.e., prevention of further damage
- if paid for more hands on assessment and restoration.
- if we focused more attention on upstream and upslope sources of river degradation
- if we knew each other and our different points of view. We could get to that in cross caucus problem solving meetings
- if we kept to the mission statement in mind during discussion and voting.
- Support rapid deployment of TMDL process for RR watershed
- Concentrate on ending gravel mining instream and on terraces.
- More effort toward finding means that enable and encourage recovery of riparian zones along main stem and tributaries.
- Restoration work is being done by many others, while we lack a strong lobby for better stewardship policy and for encouraging implementation of goals and adherence to standards already on the books at local, state and federal levels.
- I know the studies are necessary, but I see most of the money going to DFG. We will be more effective with coordinator "at the helm". Communications have been ineffective so far as when and where meet
- I don't think we have done enough to justify our existence, except spend money.
- I think a lot of people have put a lot of hard work into the process. It's a long road ahead but we all need to keep coming to the table for the health of the community.
- Give the (local, state and federal agency staff and government elected reps more of an acknowledged role and standing (even if it is non voting) Otherwise their attendance will dwindle and the council will no longer have as easy access to agency assistance.
- How about an agency subcommittee or caucus? This would not make me more likely to attend (I don't need the recognition), but it may make a difference to other agency folk and it may make a difference in other caucus members seeing the agencies as true partners (even if non voting) in Russian River watershed work.
- Make sure to get objective scientific information which is not politically influenced.
- Dig deep for facts. Don't fall for cover and misinformation put forth by those who benefit financially from the destruction of our public trust natural resource.
- Don't be afraid to take a real stand. Be aware of "window dressing" such as restoration of a mile of Santa Rosa Creek adjacent to the new (as yet unbuilt) Santa Rosa Convention Center. This is for important visitors to see and be fooled into thinking leaders really care about the watershed.
- Consider the decapitation of a woman in a truck by the workers on the sewage pipeline on Llano Rd. Consider the lack of wisdom in that pipeline.
- Consider the beautiful water being taken from the Eel River to be flushed in our toilets then returned north to the Geysers. This verges on insanity.
- Public provisions of water should be from the Russian River watershed and then returned to the Russian River watershed water table. Anything less is playing God and creating a disaster for future generations.

- Be aware of Bob Beach's huge influence in all of this.
- Be aware of the manure being spread by lobbyists in Washington DC in regard to this local treasure, which is the basic requirement for existence.
- Be aware the fish are our "miner's canary".
- Know that we are the people we've been waiting for, to bring about meaningful change and that the time is now.
- Don't be fooled by smoke and mirrors and shell games.
- Don't underestimate the involvement and influence of the Santa Rosa City Council and its collusion with the development industry to destroy what is left
- Be aware of how different it would be if grapes were farmed organically. Profits would still be high, just not quite so high.
- Take a stand to end the diversion of water from the Eel River into the Russian River. Electricity for 9000 homes is overstated by half and easily recovered by minimal conservation. The sky will not fall if that diversion is cut off. A good earthquake could do that for us, then what!?
- Scott Dam is subject to failure due to seismic activity, age and the way it's built. Van Arsdale Reservoir is only three feet deep. That old dam has got to go first along with the destructive tunnel which introduces warm water to the Russian River that is helping to destroy the fishery .
- The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors pays off Bodega Marine Lab annually, about half a million dollars, to not tell the truth to the public.
- How many full council and caucus and workgroup meetings have there been?
- RCD has limited staff time available if it cannot be billed to a grant. Additionally, meetings happen on weekends and evenings and our Board is volunteer so there is a limited amount of meetings I can attend.
- How high is the economic hate level? Or the very adamant environmental caucus? Please excuse me for it has felt very directionless to me so far.
- I attend for reasons I do not understand. Projection, I guess. I come because I believe in the good, healthy concept of a council to meet the needs of the lower river watershed and all the people who live here and use the water.
- The interagency/environmental jockeying for power or primary power takes all the attention it seems.
- With the miracle of unanimous vote for a coordinator, it means to me that Linda has the talent to meet our common felt need.
- One issue I wish we could address is the water/river access treaty with the Native Americans (Pomo?) and the US Government. Besides the pain and injustice suffered, we just might find/learn some plant and water management procedures we can all benefit from. I am aware there are more prominent issues, but sometimes the affect can be surprising.